

Message Text

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ACTION MBFR-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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USMISSION GENEVA

USNMR SHAPE

USDOCOSOUTH

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

USDEL SALT TWO

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AMEMBASSY ANKARA UNN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE UNN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI UNN

AMEMBASSY SOFIA UNN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA UNN

AMEMBASSY MADRID UNN

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE UNN

S E C R E T VIENNA 5276

GENEVA FOR DISTO

FROM US REP MBFR

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: MBFR: CHAIRMAN' S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 19-23, 1973

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1. TRANSMITTED BELOW IS THE TEXT OF THE AD HOC GROUP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 19-23, 1973, AS APPROVED BY THE GROUP IN ITS SESSION OF JUNE 25.

BEGIN TEXT: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 19-23, 1973.

2. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE USUAL PRACTICE OF THE AD HOC GROUP, THE FOLLOWING REPORT IS SUBMITTED AS THE CHAIRMAN'S OWN ACCOUNT OF THE WEEK'S PROCEEDINGS. IT HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO A GENERAL REVIEW BY THE AD HOC GROUP PRIOR TO ITS TRANSMISSION.

3. AS AGREED BY THE GROUP ON 19 TH JUNE, THE CHAIRMAN, (DANISH REPRESENTATIVE), ACCOMPANIED BY U. S. REPRESENTATIVE, MET ON 20 JUNE WITH THE SOVIET AND CZECH REPRESENTATIVES TO TRY TO SET A TARGET DATE FOR A FINAL PLENARY NOT LATER THAN THURSDAY, 28 JUNE. THE EASTERN REPS AGREED TO RECOMMEND THIS PROPOSAL TO THEIR GROUP. A WESTERN PROPOSAL THAT A JOINT PRESSRELEASE BE ISSUED TO ANNOUNCE THAT A PLENARY WOULD BE HELD SHORTLY WAS ACCEPTED AFTER CONSULTATION WITHIN THE EASTERN GROUP AND THIS WAS DONE ON JUNE 22.

4. THE US REP DREW THE ATTENTION OF THE SOVIET REP TO THE FACT THAT THE PROCEDURES AGREED HAD NOT PROVED QUITE SATISFACTORY AS FAR AS THE CONVENING OF PLENARIES WAS CONCERNED AND THAT SOME REDEFINEMENT SEEMED TO BE REQUIRED. IN THE WESTERN VIEW, IF EITHER SIDE WERE TO REQUEST A PLENARY, IT SHOULD BE HELD. FURTHERMORE, PLENARIES SHOULD NOT ONLY SERVE THE PURPOSE OF RATIFYING DECISIONS ALREADY REACHED ELSEWHERE.

5. DURING THE SAME MEETING THE SOVIET REP PROPOSED AN EXCHANGE OF PRELIMINARY VIEWS ON PRACTICAL QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS PROPER SUCH AS PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.

6. ON 22 JUNE, THE CHAIRMAN, ACCOMPANIED BY THE UNITED STATES REP, MET AGAIN WITH THE SOVIET AND POLISH REPS, AND THEY WERE INFORMED THAT THE EASTERN DELEGATIONS WERE STILL WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THE OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS. DETAILS OF THE PENDING PLENARY WERE DISCUSSED. IT WAS PROPOSED BY THE SOVIET REP THAT THE CHAIRMAN (REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GDR) WOULD BRING THE COMMUNIQUE TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PLENARY AND ASK FOR ITS APPROVAL. IN HIS VIEW, NO OTHER STATEMENT APART FROM THE USUAL WORDS OF
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THANKS SHOULD BE MADE.

7. THIS WAS LATER ENDORSED BY THE AD HOC GROUP WHO, NEVERTHELESS APPREHENSIVE THAT THE ROMANIANS MIGHT EXPRESS THEIR RESERVATIONS IN AN INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT, AND FEELING STRONGLY THAT NO RE-OPENING OF THE TEXT OF THE COMMUNIQUE COULD BE TOLERATED, CONSIDERED THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF MAKING A BRIEF

REPLY TO A POSSIBLE ROMANIAN STATEMENT.

8. CONCERNING A POSSIBLE FURTHER DEFINITION OF THE PROCEDURES AGREED REGARDING THE CONVENING OF PLENARIES, THE EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES PROPOSED, SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION OF THE REMAINING WARSAW PACT PARTICIPANTS, THAT THE PHRASE IN THE DRAFT COMMUNIQUE CONCERNING THE RIGHT OF DIRECT PARTICIPANTS TO INTRODUCE ANY TOPIC FOR NEGOTIATION SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD TO INCLUDE THE RIGHT OF EACH OF THESE PARTICIPANTS TO CONVENE A PLENARY.

9. MOST MEMBERS OF THE AD HOC GROUP CONSIDERED THIS PROPOSAL TO BE THE MAXIMUM OBTAINABLE AT PRESENT; ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD PREFER "EACH SIDE" TO BE ENTITLED TO CONVENE PLENAIRES, THEY RECOGNIZED IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR THE EAST TO ACCEPT THIS. NO COMMON POSITION WAS ESTABLISHED AS THE MATTER MIGHT BE CONSIDERED BY THE COUNCIL.

10. TURNING TO THE QUESTION OF PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES, THE EASTERN REPS EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE U. N. CONVENTION OF SPECIAL MISSIONS). WESTERN REPS EXPRESSED NO OPINION. THIS MATTER, HOWEVER, WILL HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH AT AN EARLY DATE.

11. COMMENTING ON A PROPOSAL MADE EARLIER BY THE US REP THAT WORKING GROUPS SHOULD BE OPEN- ENDED, THE SOVIET REP STATED THAT THIS QUESTION WAS BEING CONSIDERED BY THE EASTERN GROUP. ALTHOUGH THE IDEA DID NOT APPEAR VERY PRACTICAL, HE WOULD NOT PERSONALLY OPPOSE IT BEFOREHAND. A DECISION, HOWEVER, COULD ONLY BE TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE ITSELF. HE WOULD NOT AT ALL EXCLUDE THAT SOME SUCH GROUPS WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. BUT OTHER FORMATS AND FORA SHOULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE AND NO GENERAL RULE SHOULD BE ADOPTED WHICH WOULD AUTOMATICALLY EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING SMALL DRAFTING GROUPS OF THE KIND USED IN THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS.

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